

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 224

By Swann

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Iva Jean Butler of Maryville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Iva Jean Butler; and

WHEREAS, she was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens for forty-five years as a first-class news reporter and photographer for Blount County's local newspaper, *The Daily Times*; and

WHEREAS, Iva Butler was a Blount County native and the daughter of Walter and Geneva Butler, both of whom predeceased her. She attended Chilhowee View Elementary School and Walland High School; and

WHEREAS, she came to *The Daily Times* as a part-time employee while she pursued her degree at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; upon her graduation in 1971, and with high recommendations from its School of Journalism, her employment became full-time and she covered the cities of Maryville and Alcoa, in addition to coordinating coverage of Friendsville, Greenback, Louisville, Rockford, and Townsend for many years; and

WHEREAS, during the course of her illustrious career, Ms. Butler gained the respect and admiration of people throughout the communities and jurisdictions she covered. She earned a reputation for fair, balanced, honest, and informative reporting, and she was often referred to as having the tenacity of a bulldog with a bone when she was in pursuit of a story; and

WHEREAS, Iva Butler was one of the longest-serving employees in *The Daily Times'* history and the second-longest-serving newsroom employee, and it was but a short time ago that she retired from daily reporting; and

WHEREAS, only two family members survive Iva Butler, and they are an uncle, Pearson Butler, and a cousin, Gary Rogers; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Butler leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we mourn the passing of Iva Jean Butler and reflect fondly on her impeccable character and her unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and dignity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our condolences and extend our most heartfelt sympathy to the family members and the staff of *The Daily Times* who survive Ms. Butler.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.